United Nations E/C.2/2015/2/Add.19

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
27 March 2015
English
Original: English/French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2015 resumed session
26 May-3 June and 12 June 2015

Quadrennial reports for the period 2010-2013 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

Contents

		Page
1.	Association congolaise d'éducation et de prévention contre les maladies et la drogue	2
2.	Chinese Immigrants Services	3
3.	Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe	4
4.	International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation	5
5.	International Federation of Inspection Agencies	6
6.	International Fund for Animal Welfare	7
7.	Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation	9
8.	National Organization of Women's Associations in the Bahamas	10
9.	New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties	12
10.	Organisation marocaine des droits humains	13
11.	Russian Academy of Natural Sciences	14
12.	Tides Center	16
13.	Universal Esperanto Association	17
14.	World ORT Union	19
15.	World Peace and Economic Development Organization	20

15-04900 (E) 150415 240415

Please recycle

1. Association congolaise d'éducation et de prévention contre les maladies et la drogue

Special, 2010

Introduction

Recognizing the negative impact and harmful effects of drugs and some illnesses on, inter alia, social development, health, poverty, unemployment, education, sport, the promotion of human rights and peace, ecosystems, biodiversity, climate change and environmental pollution, gender and the rights of indigenous peoples, the Association congolaise d'éducation et de prévention contre les maladies et la drogue has been involved since its inception in contributing to and mobilizing on social issues.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purposes of the organization include, inter alia, contributing to and increasing access to education on sexual and reproductive rights; promoting the advancement of equality and the empowerment of women; improving knowledge of HIV/AIDS and hepatitis with a view to preventing them, and promoting a multisectoral approach to combating tuberculosis and lung disease; protecting and promoting human rights; and protecting and conserving the environment.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Participation in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012
- Participation in the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Doha in November 2012
- Participation in the work of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Dar es Salaam in March 2013. http://maindb.unfccc.int/library/view_pdf.pl?url=http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/sbsta/fre/02f.pdf
- Participation in the tenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, held in Istanbul, Turkey, in April 2013.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization has observer status with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

As part of the effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the organization has focused on achievement of Goal 7. It has advocated positive incentives to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries by partnering with the national afforestation and reforestation programme. http://www.lignafrica.com/news/15/53/Programme-National-d-Afforestation-et-de-Reboisement-ProNAR---Congo/

2. Chinese Immigrants Services

Special, 1998

Introduction

Chinese Immigrants Services strives to provide a variety of services to Chinese immigrants to encourage and help them to assimilate into American society and to promote understanding between immigrants and their communities. The tradition dates back to post World War II, when the founder, Susan Wu Rathbone, arrived from China and set up Auntie Wu's hotline. With the help of a few volunteers, the organization extended helping hands to Chinese women and children in need.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization provides direct assistance and referral services to the immigrant community. The organization works closely with the police and other governmental agencies to ensure that the rights and interests of Chinese immigrants are protected. It incorporates educational and cultural exchange into every aspect of its services, especially in sponsoring activities attended by both Chinese immigrants and other members of the community. The organization promotes Chinese immigrants welfare in the United States of America, in particular fighting for women's rights, and publishes a free bilingual journal, *Women's Voice*.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributed to the work of the United Nations by improving social justice for the Chinese community in the United States. It opened an office in Flushing, New York, which is a major area for the Asian community in New York. During office hours, it assists visitors with issues regarding legal affairs, work training and immigration.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

3. Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe

Special, 2006

Introduction

The Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe is an umbrella organization of 30 associations in Europe. It was established in 1988 by the members of the Turkish minority of Western Thrace in Greece who immigrated to Western Europe. The organization is based in Witten, Germany, and has a representative office in Brussels.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization represents the Turkish minority of Western Thrace in Greece. The main goal of the organization is to secure the rights of the Turkish minority and to find solutions to legal, political, economic and sociocultural problems through peaceful and democratic means. The organization takes a decisive stand against separatism and works towards a neighbourly, peaceful coexistence of majority and minority in one State or region.

Significant changes in the organization

In December 2010, the organization opened a representative office in Brussels for lobbying activities before the European Parliament and institutions of the European Union.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has undertaken activities to advance the achievement of the development agenda of the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations at large and has actively contributed to the work of the United Nations, in particular the work of the Human Rights Council and the Forum on Minority Issues, by:

- Promoting the rights of persons belonging to national minorities before the international and supranational organizations by referring and actively supporting the rights and values enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Preparing a parallel report on the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of Greece dated 11 July 2011

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization attended all regular sessions of the Human Rights Council during the reporting period and presented written statements on the following topics, among others:

- The problem of participation of women belonging to minority groups in public and political life, at the fourteenth session of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 31 May to 18 June 2010
- The right to freedom of religion to elect its appropriate leaders and the Mufti issue in Greece, at the sixteenth session of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 28 February to 25 March 2011
- The freedom of association of the Turkish minority of western Thrace and the problem of the implementation of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights in Greece, at the nineteenth session of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 27 February to 23 March 2012
- The right to freedom of association and the problem of the non-execution of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights in Greece, at the twenty-third session of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 27 May to 14 June 2013

The organization also attended the third to sixth sessions of the Forum on Minority Issues in Geneva and presented written and oral statements (14-15 December 2010, 29-30 November 2011, 27-28 November 2012 and 26-27 November 2013).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

4. International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation

Special, 2006

Introduction

The International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation is a non-profit organization dedicated to peace and justice. Moved by the suffering of innocent people, the organization aims to find solutions of human problems by non-violent means and through dialogue and understanding.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization is a human rights organization. The aims of the organization are to promote human rights by strengthening the values of peace and justice. Members of the organization freely participate in interfaith activities to promote friendship and understanding amongst various communities in their respective neighbourhood.

Significant changes in the organization

The original name of the organization was the International Committee for Arab-Israeli Reconciliation. In 2014, the name was changed to the International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributes to the work of the United Nations by participating in activities that promote the goal of the United Nations. It has submitted written statements to the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on the Status of Women. It also made oral presentations at their meetings.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization regularly participated in the annual observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People and the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. The organization attended the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, and other conferences on indigenous issues, social development and climate change.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

5. International Federation of Inspection Agencies

Special, 2002

Introduction

The International Federation of Inspection Agencies is the trade association for inspection agencies and other organizations that provide inspection, testing and certification services internationally. The Federation promotes cooperation between inspection agencies, laboratories and allied businesses around the world in order to develop and coordinate technical and professional standards, methods of inspection and testing, and codes of practice; to improve efficiency and establish standard procedures; to develop methods of technical education and training; to represent the profession to government authorities and trade associations; and to promote uniform interpretation of international conventions on safety and cooperate in their implementation.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Federation's objectives are to review and, where possible, improve the methods, standards, safety procedures and rules used and observed by members for the benefit of members and their clients. Its member companies are required to adopt and implement a compliance code that is approved by the Federation, which is based on technical and business professional conduct and ethics.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Federation's main contribution to the work of the United Nations is through the facilitation of international trade. This is primarily achieved through the regular inspection of goods being traded to provide independent expert assurance that they meet relevant regulations and other requirements such as may be specified by authorities and purchasers. Those requirements relate primarily to safety, security, environmental protection and quality.

In addition, the Federation has a specific function under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the Agreement on Preshipment Inspection from 1986. This relates to government-mandated inspection programmes to ensure the integrity of imports to the territory of the Government in question. The Federation maintains an audit mechanism to ensure that those of its members that undertake such pre-shipment inspection contracts always operate in conformity with this code of practice throughout their operations anywhere in the world.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

6. International Fund for Animal Welfare

Special, 2002

Introduction

Founded in 1969, the International Fund for Animal Welfare saves animal populations and habitats all over the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

With projects in more than 40 countries, the organization is one of the largest animal welfare and conservation charities in the world. The organization cares for individual animals as well as for biodiversity as a whole, and delivers effective solutions for the long-term protection of animal populations and habitats by addressing animal welfare concerns in policy, legislation and society. The organization has local expertise and leadership in field offices worldwide. The organization is sensitive to needs of local communities and works for solutions that benefit both animals and people.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

From 2010 to 2013, the organization contributed to biodiversity conservation progress by cooperating with many United Nations bodies, international agreements, member States and local communities to increase or sustain conservation protection for ecological-keystone species (sharks, elephants, whales and tigers) and their habitats. The organization trained more than 1,600 wildlife enforcement officers to fight wildlife crime, and helped countries like Iraq to join international treaties.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization attended the following meetings:

- Fifteenth and sixteenth meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Doha, 13-25 March 2010 and Bangkok, 3-14 March 2013)
- Tenth and eleventh meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Nagoya, Japan, 18-29 October 2010 and Hyderabad, India, 8-19 October 2012)
- Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, Bergen, Norway, 20-25 November 2011
- Sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Cancun, Mexico, 29 November 2010-10 December 2010
- High-level meeting of the General Assembly on biodiversity, as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity, New York, 22 September 2010

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- The organization regularly attends the meetings of the Standing Committee and the Animals Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
- The organization builds the capacity of countries in Asia and the Middle East to enforce the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and is the leading non-governmental organization (NGO) working to investigate and reduce illegal wildlife trade on the Internet
- In Bosnia and Herzegovina, in 2013, the organization began a partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to help communities that have identified security concerns about roaming dogs to develop a locally-led, long-term plan that ensures the health and welfare of dogs and people
- In 2013, the organization collaborated with the secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals to host training on the prevention of wildlife trafficking in sharks and other marine species, in Hurghada, Egypt
- The organization holds NGO accreditation with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) because of its expertise in marine mammals. In 2013, at

the session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment, the organization participated in a drafting group on guidelines to reduce shipping noise

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

- Goal 2. The organization's education programmes empower young people and communities to take positive action for animals. As a project of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, animal action education is also recognized as innovative, working to reach a broad base and teaching sustainable social, economic and environmental aspects. The organization has also been approved as an educational partner of other United Nations decades, including the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity
- Goal 7. In 2010, the organization launched a multi-year project in Liwonde National Park, Malawi, with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife. The project helps to safeguard Liwonde National Park and its wildlife by enhancing capacity for park security, providing basic park management resources, mitigating human-wildlife conflict and training Malawian leaders as the conservation managers and rangers of the future
- In 2013, the organization signed a historic lease agreement with a Maasai community at Amboseli National Park in Kenya in order to preserve 16,000 acres of habitat critical for elephants.

7. Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation

Special, 2002

Introduction

Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation is a Turkish "public benefit organization" based in Istanbul. For nearly three decades, the Foundation has worked with government officials, parliamentarians, academicians, chairs and directors of chambers of commerce and industry, as well as NGO representatives throughout the world to shape public opinion.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Foundation aims to raise awareness to crucial issues through its meetings, conferences and events in Turkey and abroad. The most important work of the Foundation is to encourage social economic and political cooperation to promote human focused development. The Foundation aims to promote mutual understanding and dialogue among cultures, religions, civil societies and Governments and encourages social economic and political cooperation among neighbouring countries to reach sustainable peaceful and stable conditions.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The main activity of the Foundation is to organize the annual Eurasian Economic Summit, which aims to promote regional peace. The regular participation of high-level representatives from the United Nations is therefore crucial to the summit. In the past two years, the United Nations High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations attended the summits.

The Foundation also participated in an observer mission to Azerbaijan for the general and presidential elections, on 9 October 2013, and in the presidential election of Kyrgyzstan on 30 October 2011.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Foundation's work focused on the following initiatives to support the Millennium Development Goals:

- Strengthening women's economic participation (2010-2011). The "Entrepreneur women of Kars, beekeepers grantee programme" was successfully implemented as a pilot project developed with the support of the European Union to ensure women's participation in the work force and to create a model for women's employment. Forty women were successfully trained
- Human trafficking. Every month, the foundation organized the Academic Council's dinners for experts who are opinion leaders of different organizations, business people and think tanks, etc.; and organized the annual Eurasian Economic Summit (main activity of the organization) and intercultural dialogue

8. National Organization of Women's Associations in the Bahamas

Special, 2010

Introduction

The National Organization of Women's Association in the Bahamas was formally founded in 1998. It is a proactive, vibrant umbrella organization functioning as the leading voice for issues affecting people, especially women and girls, through women's associations and affiliates in the Bahamas, including government, NGOs and institutions.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's aim is to collaborate with local, regional and international agencies, with a view to obtaining resources and assistance in meeting specific needs of Bahamian women and girls, and to become a centre for disseminating

worldwide information, ideas and offering assistance to Bahamian women and organizations in championing the cause of women and addressing their issues of concern. The organization aims to serve as a vehicle of communication among women groups in the Bahamas and to promote the development of women in all aspects of life in the Bahamas.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization participated in meetings on the Trafficking in Persons (Prevention and Suppression) Act, 2008, provided suggestions and developed a national action plan and protocol to help officials with identifying and managing cases.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 4 to 15 March 2013.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization worked with the Bureau of Women's Affairs in the Bahamas on constitutional reforms regarding drafting a number of bills to address women and children's issues, especially those related to girls. It conducted initiatives to erase gender stereotypes in elementary schools, to increase the number of women entering engineering and technology careers, and to raise more attention to gender concerns in the Parliament.

The organization contributed to Millennium Development Goals 1, 3, 6 and 8 through the following activities, among others:

- In cooperation with the Bahamas School of Innovative Health-Care Professionals, the organization seeks to empower women over 18 years of age by providing training in caregiving skills at the nursing support level, thereby improving women's capacity for employment
- The organization assisted in promoting the HIV and AIDS campaign of "Know your HIV status" in the Bahamas and provided education for the prevention of HIV/AIDS
- It attended sessions in parliament to promote women's rights to vote
- It also participated in and supported the "Go Orange Day" in 2013 led by the National Women's Advisory Council of the Ministry of Social Services and Community Development, in response to the Secretary-General's campaign of "UNiTE to End Violence against Women"

9. New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties

Special, 2006

Introduction

The New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties is an NGO committed to the protection and promotion of the human rights of all Australians. The organization works at the local, state and federal levels to pursue its aims and purposes.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the organization have been to assist in the maintenance and protection of the rights and liberties of persons in Australia and its territories, against any infringement by authority, or against the use or abuse of powers by governments, their agencies, or others in authority to the detriment of the liberties which inhabitants of that country should enjoy. The organization also aids in advancing measures for the recovery and enlargement of those rights and liberties, and pursues those aims by vigilance, publicity, legal action and advice, protest and other appropriate means, including assistance to individuals. The organization is non-party and non-sectarian.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributed to the work of the United Nations by promoting and defending human rights in Australia through advocacy and lobbying work in Australia, and connecting with NGOs abroad. Its work broadly consists of defending the rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as other critical international conventions such as the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. That work over the period under review has included advocating issues such as:

- The lack of a human rights act or charter in Australia
- The encroachment on the right to silence of persons arrested
- The failure to extend marriage to same-sex and other couples

The organization has been a vocal opponent of a number of legislative amendments relating to the rights of asylum seekers particularly those arriving in Australia by boat, those in mandatory immigration detention and those who have been issued with adverse security assessments. Many aspects of those changes contravene the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951. The organization assisted the authors, and their counsel, in respect of communication No. 2094/2011, *F.K.A.G. et al. v. Australia*, and communication No. 2136/2012, *M.M.M. et al. v. Australia*, to the Human Rights Committee concerning indefinite detention of persons in immigration detention. The views of the Human Rights Committee under article 5, paragraph 4, of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (108th session) in respect of these communications were adopted on

25 and 26 July 2013 and the organization also participated in a briefing of the Human Rights Committee by Australian NGOs on 30 October 2012.

The organization is an active supporter of the development of, and was early signatory to, the International Principles on the Application of Human Rights to Communications Surveillance.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization contributed to a submission for the *Joint NGO Report on Australia's Human Rights Record: An Update on Australia's Progress towards Universal Periodic Review Recommendations for the United Nations Human Rights Council* (published in 2014).

In November 2013, the organization attended a meeting of the Third Committee of the General Assembly in New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

Additional information

During the period under review, the organization participated in the annual human rights consultation of the Government of Australia (NGO forum on human rights).

10. Organisation marocaine des droits humains

Special, 2010

Introduction

The Organisation marocaine des droits humains was founded in 1988. It is a non-governmental organization working for the protection and promotion of human rights.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to promote the enjoyment and exercise of fundamental human rights on the basis of universal standards; to disseminate the culture of human rights; to raise awareness of the need to respect fundamental human rights; to denounce all violations of human rights; and to advocate respect for human rights, the rule of law, the separation of powers, the independence of the judiciary, the ratification of international instruments, the harmonization of national legislation with international conventions and the strengthening of national, regional, African and international solidarity in the field of human rights.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization participates regularly in United Nations activities, including the work of the Human Rights Council, treaty bodies, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly:

- The organization participated in the sixteenth session of the Human Rights Council, held in February 2011, and the twenty-second session of the Human Rights Council in March 2013
- The organization was part of the delegation of Moroccan non-governmental human rights organizations that met with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Navi Pillay, during her visit to Rabat.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Since 2007, the organization has been cooperating with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, particularly on a project to provide better protection for refugees and asylum-seekers in Morocco, especially in the border area of Oujda.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization has a special interest in school enrolment, especially for girls in rural areas, taking strong action against child labour and underage marriage. It belongs to a group that takes action against the scourge of child labour. As part of that activity, it is contributing to advocacy to amend the draft law on domestic labour. Consequently, in the context of the promotion of the Millennium Development Goals, the organization has focused specifically on Goal 3 (promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women), Goal 5 (promotion of the right to maternal health) and Goal 2 (promotion of the right to primary education).

Finally, with regard to Goal 1 (action against extreme poverty), the organization works to promote economic, social and cultural rights, recognizing that the enjoyment of those rights is a means of addressing poverty and achieving development.

11. Russian Academy of Natural Sciences

General, 2002

Introduction

The Russian Academy of Natural Sciences is an all-Russian public intellectual and scientific organization, uniting scholars of all areas of study, such as natural scientists, creators of science-driven technologies and humanitarians, who share a

common desire to encourage the expression of creative personality and to promote education, the expansion of fundamental and applied research and the creation of civil society in the Russian Federation and in the rest of the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The main purposes of the organization are: to develop science, education and culture as basis to strengthen national security and sustainable development of the Russian Federation; to contribute to the development of programmes on human and societal security; to promote ideas of humanism for further improvements in education, and contribute to the national cultures in the Russian Federation; to promote the creation of a new noospheric system of values, as a basis for the present and future development of the Russian Federation and the global community without crises; and to provide independent expert reviews for large-scale scientific and public projects, research programmes, innovations and discoveries.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has established branches in the United States, Mongolia, Greece, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Azerbaijan.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The main contributions of the organization include, among others:

- Hosting the international conferences on "Women of the mountains" under the auspices of the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions (Mountain Partnership), held in Orem, United States, on 8 and 9 March 2011, and in Puno, Peru, from 12 to 14 June 2012, to promote the gender agenda globally
- Participating in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012
- Contributing to the sixth session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, held in New York, in December 2013
- Promoting the sustainable mountain development agenda, coordinated by the Mountain Partnership under the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- The organization made a statement at the third Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership, a side event at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and submitted changes to its outcome document, entitled "The future we want"
- It contributed to the final documents of the fourth Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership, held in Erzurum, Turkey, from 17 to 20 September 2013, which defined strategies to promote the sustainable mountain development agenda for 2014-2017

- It made a statement about the role of private businesses in promoting sustainable development during the session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals
- It contributed to several chapters of the report entitled *Sustainable Mountain Development in North America: From Rio 1992 to Rio 2012 and Beyond* of the Mountain Partnership, in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization participated in the e-market transformation programme on energy efficiency in carbon intensive industries in the Russian Federation, a project jointly implemented by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, from 2012 to 2013.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In support of Goals 3, 4 and 5, the organization hosted the international conferences on "Women of the mountains", under the umbrella of the Mountain Partnership, in 2011 and in 2012, to address issues that are critical to women and children of mountainous nations, and contributed to the session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in 2013.

12. Tides Center

Special, 2006

Introduction

Tides Center offers fiscal sponsorship and financial and legal services to over 230 United States-based groups that promote social justice, such as the International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which is a collaborative initiative of groups and individuals from around the world working to secure economic and social justice through human rights and now unites over 220 human rights organizations and 50 individual advocates across 70 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization provides fiscal sponsorship for groups that promote change toward a healthy society founded on principles of social justice, broadly shared economic opportunity, a robust democratic process and sustainable environmental practices, grounded in respect for human rights.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization facilitates the collective and individual engagement of its members with multiple treaty instruments and bodies and their representatives, such as the universal periodic review and special procedures mandate holders of the

Human Rights Council. During the period under review, this included thematic briefings for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, participation in consultations with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and events co-organized with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in New York and Geneva.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization's corporate accountability working group regularly participated in the Forum on Business and Human Rights, as well as relevant sessions of the Human Rights Council. It facilitated member engagement in the consultations of special procedures mandate holders of the Council, most recently hosting a consultation on the roles and responsibilities of sub-national Governments for the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and the right to non-discrimination in this context. The NGO Coalition for the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights attended meetings of the Third Committee of the General Assembly, while working in partnership with the Group of Friends of the Optional Protocol.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights maintains close relationships with the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, participating in treaty body sessions and consultations related to emerging general comments. The Network's working group on women and economic, social and cultural rights facilitated events during sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and briefings for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, while submitting inputs to reports of UN-Women and the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and practice.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Tides Center participated in post-2015 development agenda processes, foremost via its working groups on women and economic, social and cultural rights, which facilitated related events during sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, encouraged member engagement and disseminated resources of member organizations central to the process, and supported discussions with the Post-2015 Women's Coalition.

13. Universal Esperanto Association

Special, 1998

Introduction

The Universal Esperanto Association is the largest international organization for Esperanto speakers, with members in 124 countries. Its headquarters are in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The Association has an office in New York and a regional office for Africa in Lokossa, Benin.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association aims to promote Esperanto, to stimulate discussion of the world language problem and to call attention to the necessity of equality among languages. It has the following four goals: to promote the use of Esperanto; to act for the solution of the language problem in international relations and to facilitate international communication; to encourage all types of spiritual and material relations among people, irrespective of differences of nationality, race, sex, religion, politics or language; and to nurture among its members a strong sense of solidarity, developing in them understanding and respect for other peoples.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Over the years, the Association has organized a number of conferences and symposiums in New York on aspects of languages and the work of the United Nations. Reports and articles on the work of United Nations regularly appear in the monthly *Esperanto* magazine.

During the Reykjavic Congress on Human Rights, in 2013, participants discussed the organizational structure of the United Nations and with the work on human rights. Through its website, the organization informs the public about developments at the United Nations, provides *Esperanto* translations of key documents and gathers other information about the United Nations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association regularly attends NGO briefings in New York and has been actively involved in the work of the Department of Public Information of the United Nations. Each year, the Association is represented at the annual Department of Public Information/NGO Conference and at other meetings. It intervened at the fifth session of the Forum on Minority Issues, held in Geneva, on 27 and 28 November 2012. The Association addressed the Forum and spoke about the difficulties experienced in the practice of the rights defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

On 1 May 2012, the Association organized a symposium on "Language and the United Nations" in New York, during which representatives from different United Nations entities gave a speech. The Association is a member of the NGO Committee on Peace at the United Nations in Vienna.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

An Esperanto translation of the Millennium Development Goals was widely distributed, for example through Wikipedia. Attention to the Millennium Development Goals is given in speeches, lectures and seminars during the annual World Congresses of Esperanto and in the Congress resolutions, as well as in the

periodicals of the Association, and national Esperanto associations are called upon to join in this activity in their congresses and publications.

14. World ORT Union

Special, 2006

Introduction

The World ORT Union is one of the largest and oldest non-governmental educational and training organizations in the world, running a network of programmes, training centres and schools, with past and present operations in more than 100 countries. The organization's mission is to deliver high-quality education and training to provide low-income graduates and disadvantaged populations with a window of integration and real competitive advantage when seeking opportunities for employment, thereby enabling them to undertake fulfilling careers.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's mission is to work for the advancement of all people through training and education, and to foster economic self-sufficiency, mobility and a sense of identity through the use of state-of-the-art technology. Through international cooperation programmes, the organization supports non-sectarian economic and social development in developing countries, with vocational training and the provision of technical assistance. A key objective of the organization's technical assistance programmes is to establish a self-sustaining, locally based training capacity.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has provided training and universal education to more than three million people over the past 130 years in more than 100 countries. It works in the following areas: vocational and technical education; workforce development, institution strengthening and human resources development; civil society strengthening and non-governmental organization institutional building; democracy and governance; agriculture; rural and urban development; health care; transportation; and the establishment of training programmes.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization regularly attends United Nations meetings and contributes to the annual Department of Public Information/NGO Conference, as well as the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women. Examples of meetings in which the organization participated in include: the Department of Public Information/NGO briefing on "Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilations"; an interactive presentation to Member States of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2012*; the briefing on the "Prospects for food security and nutrition in 2013"; and the panel on "Human right to peace: time to mobilize".

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization frequently cooperates with the United Nations Children's Fund in Liberia, and engages with the Commission on the Status of Women.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization works to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education, and promote gender equality and empower women through programmes implemented for the disabled in Montenegro and the impoverished in Liberia and Myanmar, as well as education initiatives through all the organization's schools in 40 countries. It works to strengthen and build local capacity by providing curriculums, education and vocational training, within or in addition to the formal existing education system, in a variety of sectors, including science and technology, information technology, health and nutrition, mother and child care, agriculture and rural development, good governance and democracy building and transportation.

15. World Peace and Economic Development Organization

Special, 2006

Introduction

World Peace and Economic Development Organization, which is based in Bangladesh, is a unique and dynamic endeavour for peace and love for mankind and the establishment of human rights and social justice.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims and objectives are: to enhance human rights by ensuring everyone's access to food, shelter, clothing, education and medicine; to combat international terrorism in order to ensure the establishment of a peaceful world; to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and civil war; to ensure environmental protection; to ensure the establishment of women's rights as a legitimate human right; and to ensure the protection of children's rights for health, nutrition and education and to prevent cruelty towards children.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In support of the Millennium Development Goals, the organization undertook the following activities:

- It provided food, clothing and education materials to children in many orphanages in Bangladesh, Nepal, India and other countries. Financial assistance was also provided to these orphanages for infrastructural development.

- It provided medical services to the poor with the assistance of qualified renowned physicians and national professors from different countries, who provided free medical check-ups and medicine.

- It responded to natural disasters by providing emergency relief, food, medicine, drinking water, clothing and financial assistance to the affected people to rebuild their houses and for their economic rehabilitation.

- It distributed warm clothing in the winter to slum dwellers and the rural poor, as well as relief materials and cash grants.

- It organized awareness building and motivation session on women's rights.

- It undertook awareness-raising activities to motivate various stakeholders to prevent environment degradation, chemical waste and global warming.